

Message Text

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20

ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-13 ISO-00 COA-02 EB-11 OIC-04

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19

AEC-11 AGR-20 CG-00 COME-00 DOTE-00 FMC-04 INT-08

JUSE-00 NSF-04 OMB-01 DRC-01 /195 W

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R 250804Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6507

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUCHAREST 3474

GENEVA FOR USDEL LOS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, OCON, XN, US, RO

SUBJECT: ICNAF: FISHERIES

REF: A) BUCHAREST 3444; B) STATE 183185; C) STATE 187377

1. DURING MEETING WITH EMBOFF SEPTEMBER 24, NAVROM DIRECTOR GENERAL NICOLAE OCANOAIA AND FISHING EXPERT LIVIU POPESCU REPEATED MANY OF ARGUMENTS MADE PREVIOUSLY TO EMBASSY BY MFA SPOKESMAN TUDOR MIRCEA (REFTEL A). OCANOAIA WAS PARTICULARLY VIGOROUS IN ASSERTING THAT STANDARD PERCENTAGE REDUCTION ON FISHING CATCH CLEARLY FAVORED THOSE WHO HAD FISHED IN RESPECTIVE AREAS FOR CONSIDERABLE LENGTH OF TIME AND WAS PREJUDICIAL TO THOSE COUNTRIES WHO WERE NEWCOMERS TO AREAS AND WHOSE GROSS CATCH WAS CORRESPONDINGLY LOW.

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2. OCANOAIA SAID THAT ROMANIA WAS CONCENTRATING ON FISHING IN AREAS ADJACENT TO AFRICA THIS YEAR SINCE VARIETY OF CIRCUMSTANCES MADE THIS AREA MORE PROFITABLE FOR GOR THAN NORTH ATLANTIC AREAS, AND HE ADDED THAT IT IS DOUBTFUL WHETHER ROMANIA WOULD FULFILL QUOTA GRANTED TO IT BY ICNAF DURING CALENDAR YEAR 1973. OCANOAIA ASKED SPECIFICALLY WHETHER US PLANNED TO MAINTAIN ITS REQUEST FOR OVERALL 40 PER CENT REDUCTION IN CATCH OVER AND ABOVE RECENTLY ALLOCATED QUOTAS AT OTTAWA MEETING, AND POINTED OUT THAT SUCH REDUCTION, APPLIED TO ALREADY MEAGER QUOTAS FOR ROMANIA (1,300 TONS OF HERRING AND 16,000 TONS OF MACKERAL), WOULD MAKE IT ECONOMICALLY UNFEASIBLE FOR GOR TO CONTINUE FISHING IN ICNAF ZONES. OCANOAIA ADDED THAT IF US COULD FIND ITS WAY CLEAR TO MAKE MORE EQUITABLE ALLOWANCES FOR SMALLER, DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WHICH ONLY RECENTLY HAVE BECOME INVOLVED IN ICNAF AREAS, THESE COUNTRIES WITHOUT QUESTION WOULD BE FIRM SUPPORTERS OF US CONSERVATION PROPOSALS AT OTTAWA.

3. DURING CONVERSATIONS OCANOAIA MADE POINT OF SUGGESTING THAT ICNAF MEMBERS CONSIDER FORMATION OF JOINT SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH GROUP WHICH PRESUMABLY WOULD COME UP WITH COMMON FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS AS TO EXACT NATURE OF CONSERVATION PROBLEM AND BEST SOLUTIONS FOR THEM. OCANOAIA RAISED THIS POINT IN REGARD TO WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS DIVERGENT VIEWS ON GRAVITY OF FISHING PROBLEMS IN SA5 AND SA6 AS EVINCED BY INDEPENDENT RESEARCH STUDIES CARRIED OUT BY POLES AND SOVIETS. OCANOAIA SAID GREATEST DIFFERENCE OF OPINION APPEARED TO INVOLVE MACKERAL CATCH.

4. WITH REGARD PARA 4 REFTTEL B APPROACH, OCANOAIA EXPRESSED GRATITUDE FOR NOTIFICATION OF US DEMARCHE, NOTING THAT WITH ADVANCE WARNING HE WOULD BE ABLE TO REQUEST ADOPTION BY GOR OF SPECIAL PROCEDURES, FOR APPROVAL BEFORE 1 JANUARY 1974, OF ANY ACCORDS REACHED AT OTTAWA SO THAT ACCORDS COULD BE APPLIED TO ENTIRE CALENDAR YEAR. OCANOAIA ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT GOR REACTION WOULD DEPEND TO SOME DEGREE ON ABILITY OF DEPOSITARY GOVERNMENT TO CIRCULATE ICNAF ACCORDS AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE AMONG MEMBERSHIP FOR APPROVAL.

5. BOTH OCANOAIA AND POPESCU ASSURED EMBOFF THAT IN ACCORDANCE REFTTEL C REQUEST, GOR WOULD ENSURE THAT LATEST FIGURES AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ESTIMATES OF CATCHES FOR SA5 AND SA6 TOGETHER WITH ESTIMATES FOR REMAINDER OF YEAR WOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE BY GOR DELEGATION TO OTTAWA MEETING. AS OF THIS TIME, DELEGATION STILL TO BE COMPRISED OF OCANOAIA AND POPESCU.
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